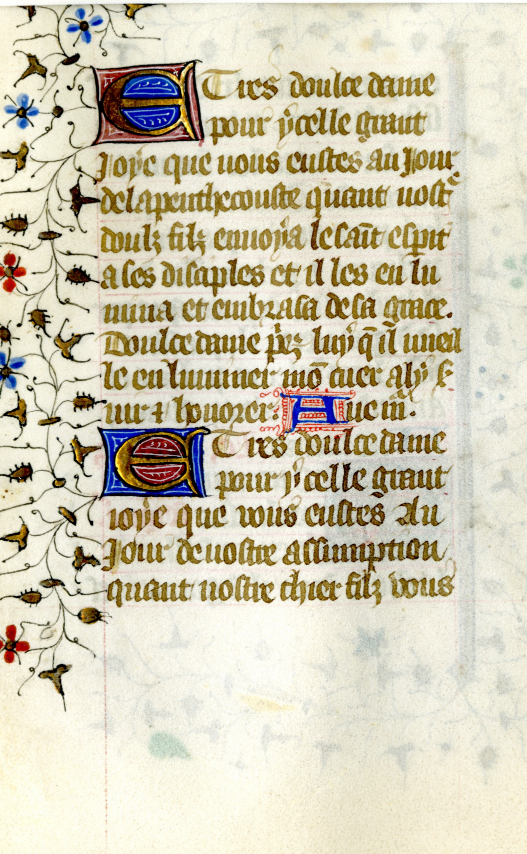
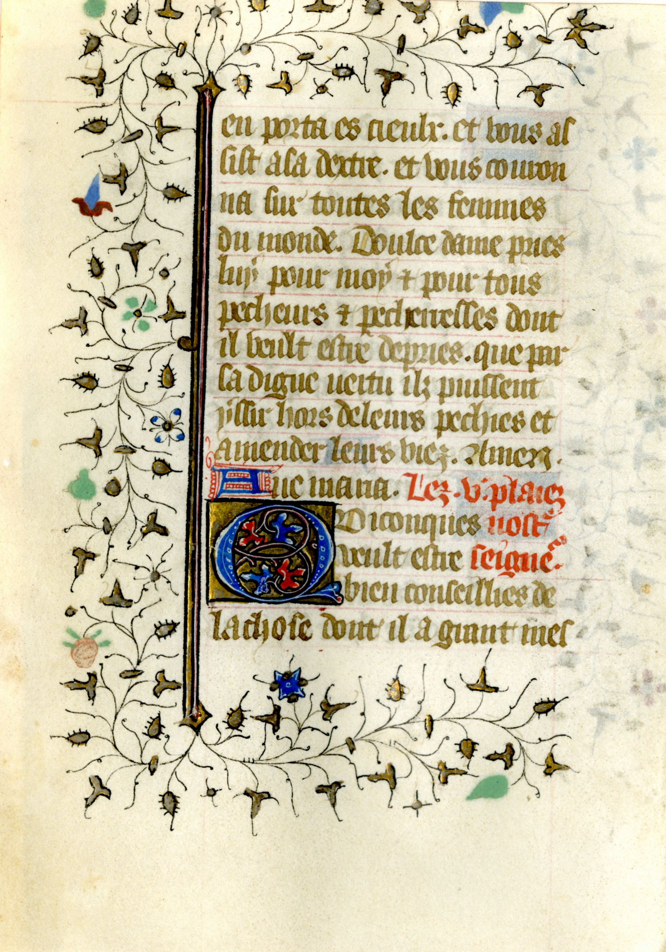


E Tres doulce dame
pour ycelle grant
joye que vous eustes au jour
de la penthecouste quant vostre
doulz filz envoya le saint esprit
a ses disciples et il les enlu
mina et embrasa de sa grace.
Doulce dame priez luy qu'il vueil
le enluminer mon cuer a luy ser
vir et honorer. Ave maria.

E Tres doulce dame
pour ycelle grant
joye que vous eustes au
jour de vostre assumption
quant vostre chier filz vous


en porta es cieulx. et vous as
sist a sa dextre. et vous couron
na sur toutes les femmes
du monde. Doulce dame pries
luy pour moy + pour tous
pecheurs + pecheresses dont
il veult estre depries. que par
sa digne vertu ilz puissent
yssir hors de leurs pechies et
amender leurs viez. Amen.
Ave maria. Les .v. plaie9
Quiconques nost̄
veult estre seigne.
bien conseillies de
la chose dont il a grant mes

MEDIEVAL BOOK OF HOURS LEAF, c. 1420-30 - JOYS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

IM-10894: (127 x 92mm) Original leaf from a medieval manuscript ***Book of Hours***. 15 lines of red-ruled, **French text**, written with dark brown ink in gothic book-hand script on animal vellum. **One four-line illuminated initial in blue on a burnished gold ground** with floral interior design in red, orange & blue extending down the leaf with a bar of burnished gold & blue & into margins with delicate rinceaux design in burnished gold, green, blue & red; **Two two-line illuminated initials in burnished gold** on a blue & red ground with delicate white penwork, extending into margins with a delicate rinceaux design in burnished gold, blue & red; **two one-line illuminated initial** in deep blue with delicate red penwork extending into the margin. **Northern France (Paris),** c. **1420-30.**

The text continues one of the most popular 15th century prayers: the ***Fifteen Joys of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*** The prayer celebrates the joyous moments of the Virgin Mary's life (The Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity...ending with the Assumption into Heaven). Each **two-line illuminated "E"** begins: "E tres doulce dame..." (Very sweet lady...). The **three-line illuminated "Q"** begins a prayer which opens the ***Seven Requests to our Lord.***
This attractive leaf was written and illuminated in France **at a pivotal point in the *Hundred Year's War*** - England defeated France decisively in Agincourt in 1415 and took Paris in 1420. **Not until Joan of Arc's heroism (1428-29) could France regain hope of restoring its capital. The book from which this came was likely in daily use at that time.**
Provenance: Sotheby's - ex G. Barilla of Geneva, formerly Frederick Fowler collection (England c. 1820's).